United Nations S/AC.44/2004/(02)/132

Security Council

Distr.: General
23 June 2006

Original: English

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

Note verbale dated 22 June 2006 from the Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of the State of Eritrea to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), and has the honour to submit herewith the national report of the Government of the State of Eritrea, pursuant to the said resolution (see annex).

06-40611 (E) 070706

Annex to the note verbale dated 22 June 2006 from the Permanent Mission of Eritrea to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

Report of the Government of the State of Eritrea pursuant to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004)

This report has been prepared in accordance with paragraph 4 of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) for the submission to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to the same resolution.

1. Eritrea has never developed and does not possess any nuclear, chemical or biological weapons or their means of delivery.

2. Eritrea is deeply committed to international efforts aimed at the control and non-proliferation of any weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery. Accordingly, Eritrea is:

- Party to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and Their Destruction (CWC) of 3 September 1992;
- Party to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) of 12 June 1968;
- Party to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) of 10 September 1996;
- Signatory to the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba); and
- Subscribing State to the International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation of 25 November 2002.

3. Eritrea is an active member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). The Government of Eritrea confirms the continuation, and strengthening, of its participation in these organizations.

4. Eritrea does not provide any kind of support to non-State actors that attempt to develop, acquire, manufacture, possess, transport, transfer or use nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery. Eritrea has acceded to the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and is now considering accession to the International Conventions for the suppression of terrorism. Law enforcement authorities of the State of Eritrea have already been jointly working with their counterparts in the subregion and in Africa as well as cooperating with ICPO/Interpol in the exchange of information on prevention and suppression of terrorism.

5. At present, Eritrea has not enacted specific national legislations on non-proliferation and has not instituted control lists. The delay in taking national implementation measures is mainly caused by the preoccupation of the Government with the unresolved border issue with Ethiopia. In addition, as stated in paragraph 1, Eritrea does not possess any such weapons and related materials. However, the

Customs Proclamation No. 112 of 2000 provides a legal basis for the control of imports and exports of any illicit materials entering or transiting the country.

6. Eritrea remains engaged and interested in issues of weapons of mass destruction within the frame:.ork of the United Nations and other regional and international forums that aim to enhance complete disarmament and non-proliferation of WMDs.

7. Eritrea commits itself to the continued cooperation in the fight against any illicit trafficking in nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery and related materials.

Asmera, 15 June 2006